

USEPA/OECA/OC  
State and Tribal Assistance Grant (STAG) 1999-2000  
Texas: Measuring Outcomes from Compliance Assistance  
Final Report  
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**EPA Cooperative Agreement Grant for Development of Enhanced Performance Measures  
for Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Programs  
Final Report**

**I.     Introduction**

This program element involves one-to-one personalized technical assistance for small businesses in Texas. An independent environmental consultant determines compliance with all applicable federal and state air, water, and waste regulations by using a compliance checklist specific for that industry. The contractor also provides technical assistance in determining compliance and recommending solutions to identified environmental problems. In addition, the contractor identifies opportunities for pollution prevention measures the businesses could implement to reduce waste and save money. A follow-up site visit will provide compliance data to compare against baseline data and thus determine increases in compliance and changes in behavior.

**II     Overall Progress and Results**

Forty-nine (49) initial small business compliance/pollution prevention site visits and twenty-eight (28) follow-up site visits at participating businesses where non-compliance with any state or federal regulation was documented. Data collection and management of pollution prevention case studies were used to monitor and track the types of improvements resulting from the site visits.

**III    Related Issues/Current Problems and Favorable or Unusual Developments**

There were several common issues that were noted and addressed during the technical assistance visits to small businesses. These common issues included:

- no air permit or standard exemption
- no hazardous waste determination or no hazardous waste record keeping
- no storm water plan or permit or were discharging wastewater without authorization for a local publicly owned treatment works

**IV    Conclusions/Projected Work for Next Quarter**

The compliance/pollution prevention site visit program has been very beneficial to small businesses in helping them comply with applicable state and federal environmental regulations and in implementing new pollution prevention measures.